

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 LAB-06

SIL-01 ARA-16 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /204 W

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R 060612Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0680

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6874

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CU, LA

SUBJECT: LAO CABINET MEETING SEPTEMBER 4

REFS: A. VIENTIANE 6829

B. VIENTIANE 6762

1. IN WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 5, LAO GOVERNMENT (PGNU) SPOKESMAN OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG REPORTED THAT PRIME MINISTER SOUKZBVNA PHOUMA'S HEALTH IS IMPROVING. HE NOTED THAT SOUVANNA HAD FLOWN TO NICE AND HAD SUBSEQUENTLY TRAVELLED BY CAR TO GRASSE TO CONTINUE HIS RECUPERATION.

2. OUDAY SAID THAT DURING SEPTEMBER 4 CABINET MEETING MINISTER OF ECONOMY/PLAN SOTH PHETRASY HAD REPORTED ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO SAM NEUA. SOTH REPORTEDLY RETURNED WITH A LIST OF ASSISTANCE NEEDED IN THE LPF ZONE, WHICH WILL BE INCORPORATED INTO A SINGLE PGNU LIST BEFORE THE TWO LAO ECONOMIC DELEGATIONS DEPART VIENTIANE ON AN
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AID-SOLICITATION MISSION ABROAD. OUDAY STATED THAT THE

FIRST DELEGATION, WHICH WILL BE LED BY SOTH, IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

3. ON THE LABOR FRONT, MINISTER OF POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS KHAMPHENG BOUPHA REPORTED ON LABOR AGITATION WITHIN THE PTT MINISTRY. THE CABINET DECIDED THAT THE PTT DIRECTOR GENERAL, AND SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS, SHOULD TAKE LEAVE WHILE AN AD HOC COMMITTEE INVESTIGATES THE ALLEGED GRIEVANCES OF PTT EMPLOYEES.

4. PRESS CONFERENCE WAS MARKED BY THE PRESENCE OF A YOUNG LAO REPORTER REPRESENTING CUBAN NEWS AGENCY PRENSA LATINA. SPEAKING WITH A STRONG SAM NEUA ACCENT, REPORTER ASKED ABOUT PGNU RESPONSE TO CUBAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. OUDAY RESPONDED THAT THE PGNU HAD STUDIED THE REQUEST AND ACCEPTED THE CUBAN PROPOSAL, AND IS RECOMMENDING RECOGNITION TO THE KING. HE ADDED THAT, ASSUMING THE KING APPROVES, THE QUESTION OF EXCHANGING AMBASSADORS WILL BE ADDRESSED AT A LATER DATE. PRENSA LATINA REPRESENTATIVE ASKED FURTHER WHO WOULD REPRESENT LAOS AT UNGA, AND OUDAY RESPONDED THAT PHOUMI DEFINITELY WILL LEAD THE LAO DELEGATION; HE ALSO PROVIDED THE NAMES OF THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE LAO DELEGATION (REFTEL A). SAME CORRESPONDENT THEN STATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE HAD HELD A TALK WITH SISOUK ON JULY OR AUGUST 13, IN WHICH HE SAID THE U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE MILITARY AID TO LAOS. QUERIED AS TO WHETHER THE U.S. WAS TO GO ON "SUPPORTING THE WAR IN LAOS," OUDAY RESPONDED THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF THE WHITEHOUSE-SISOUK CONVERSATION AND THEREFORE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE.

5. ASKED ABOUT ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT PHOUT'S LETTER TO THE PGNU (REFTEL B), OUDAY STATED THAT THE ISSUE WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT THE CABINET MEETING.

6. QUERIED FURTHER ON STATUS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN GENERAL, OUDAY REPLIED THAT CABINET HAS SENT LETTER TO KING'S COUNCIL, ASKING FOR ITS OPINION CONCERNING DIS-SOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY, AND ALSO HAD ADDRESSED LETTER TO THE KING SUGGESTING THAT HE CONVENE MEETING OF COUNCIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF MINISTERS TO DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 06 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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